In the claims:

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response.

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein assigning a secure tunnel comprises selecting from among a plurality of established secure tunnels with a plurality of servers.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein the secure tunnel comprises a secure sockets layer (SSL) context.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the SSL context comprises a source address, a destination address and an encryption algorithm.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising using a load balancing algorithm to assign a server to the user request if the transaction is not a secure transaction.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising:

subsequently receiving a second request comprising the session ID;

selecting the server corresponding to the session ID; and

sending the second request to the selected server.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein determining if the transaction is a secure transaction comprises determining if an SSL packet is associated with the request.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein a secure transaction comprises transactions in which information about the user is saved at the assigned server.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein a secure transaction comprises transactions in which personal data and credit card information about the user is saved at the assigned server.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising:

receiving a second request comprising a second session ID;

selecting the server corresponding to the first session ID;

sending the second request to the selected server; and

applying a quality of service algorithm to prioritize the first request and the second request.

39 (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a user request corresponding to a transaction at a dispatcher, the user request comprising a session identifier (ID);

determining if the transaction is a secure transaction;

determining if the session ID exists in a mapping table at the dispatcher, if the transaction is a secure transaction; and

assigning a server to the user request at the dispatcher and assigning a secure tunnel to the assigned server at the dispatcher if the transaction is a secure transaction and if the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising using a load balancing algorithm to assign the server to the user request.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising sending the request to a server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising adding the session ID and the server assignment as an entry to the mapping table if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein assigning a secure tunnel comprises selecting from among a plurality of established secure tunnels with a plurality of established servers.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the secure tunnel comprises a secure sockets layer (SSL) context having a source address, a destination address and an encryption algorithm.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein determining if the transaction is a secure transaction comprises determining if an SSL packet is associated with the request.

46 (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a user request corresponding to a transaction at a dispatcher, the user request comprising a session identifier (ID);

assigning a server to the user request at the dispatcher;

determining if the transaction is a secure transaction;

assigning a secure tunnel to the assigned server at the dispatcher if the transaction is a secure transaction;

adding the session ID, the server assignment, and the secure tunnel assignment as an entry to a mapping table at the dispatcher if the transaction is a secure transaction.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, further comprising determining if the session ID exists in the mapping table, if the transaction is a secure transaction and sending the request to the server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein assigning a secure tunnel comprises selecting from among a plurality of established secure tunnels with a plurality of servers.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein the secure tunnel comprises a secure sockets layer (SSL) context having a source address, a destination address and an encryption algorithm.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, further comprising:

subsequently receiving a second request comprising the session ID;

determining if the session ID exists in the mapping table; and

sending the request to the server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein a secure transaction comprises transactions in which information about the user is saved at the assigned server.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, further comprising:

receiving a second request comprising a second session ID;

selecting the server corresponding to the first session ID;

sending the second request to the selected server; and

applying a quality of service algorithm to prioritize the first request and the second request.

53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 57, wherein the operations further include using a load balancing algorithm to assign a server to the user request if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

55. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 57, wherein the operations further include adding the session ID and the server assignment as an entry to the mapping table if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

56. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 57, wherein the operations further include selecting from among a plurality of established secure tunnels with a plurality of servers to assign a secure tunnel to the assigned server as an entry to the mapping table if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

57. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture including a machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations including:

receiving a user request corresponding to a transaction at a dispatcher, the user request comprising a session identifier (ID);

determining if the transaction is a secure transaction;

determining if the session ID exists in a mapping table at the dispatcher, if the transaction is a secure transaction; and

assigning a server to the user request at the dispatcher and assigning a secure tunnel to the assigned server at the dispatcher if the transaction is a secure transaction and if the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

58. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 57, wherein the operations further include sending the request to a server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

59. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 57, wherein the secure tunnel comprises a secure sockets layer (SSL) context having a source address, a destination address and an encryption algorithm.

60 (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture including a machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations including:

receiving a user request corresponding to a transaction at a dispatcher, the user request comprising a session identifier (ID);

assigning a server to the user request at the dispatcher;

determining if the transaction is a secure transaction;

assigning a secure tunnel to the assigned server at the dispatcher if the transaction is a secure transaction;

adding the session ID, the server assignment, and the secure tunnel assignment as an entry to a mapping table at the dispatcher if the transaction is a secure transaction.

61. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 60, wherein the operations further include determining if the session ID exists in the mapping table, if the transaction is a secure transaction and sending the request to the server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

62. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 60, wherein the operations further include:

subsequently receiving a second request comprising the session ID;

determining if the session ID exists in the mapping table; and

sending the request to the server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

63. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 60, wherein the operations further include:

receiving a second request comprising a second session ID;

selecting the server corresponding to the first session ID;

sending the second request to the selected server; and

applying a quality of service algorithm to prioritize the first request and the second request.

64. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a mapping table containing session identifiers (IDs) linked to server and secure tunnel assignments; and

a dispatcher to receive a user request corresponding to a transaction, the user request comprising a session ID, to determine if the transaction is a secure transaction, to determine if the session ID exists in the mapping table, if the transaction is a secure transaction, and to send the request to a server corresponding to the session ID in the mapping table, if the session ID exists in the mapping table.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 64, further comprising a load balancing table and wherein the dispatcher assigns a server to the user request using the load balancing table if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 65, wherein the dispatcher adds the session ID and the server assignment as an entry to the mapping table if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

67. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 65, wherein the dispatcher determines if the transaction is a secure transaction by determining if an SSL packet is associated with the request.

68. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 67, wherein a secure transaction comprises transactions in which information about the user is saved at the assigned server.

69. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 65, further comprising a quality of service (QoS) manager in communication with the dispatcher to decide which one of multiple user requests is processed if multiple user requests are sent to the same server.

70. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a load balancing table;

a mapping table containing session identifiers (IDs) linked to server and secure tunnel assignments; and

a dispatcher to receive a user request corresponding to a transaction, the user request comprising a session ID, to determine if the transaction is a secure transaction, to determine if the session ID exists in the mapping table, if the transaction is a secure transaction, and to assign a server to the user request using the load balancing table and a secure tunnel to the assigned server if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 70, wherein the dispatcher further assigns a server to the user request using the load balancing table if the transaction is not a secure transaction.

72. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 70, wherein the dispatcher further selects the secure tunnel from among a plurality of established secure tunnels

with a plurality of established servers, if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.

73. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 70, wherein the dispatcher further adds the session ID and the server assignment as an entry to the mapping table if the transaction is a secure transaction and the session ID does not exist in the mapping table.